



# **160<sup>th</sup> Special Operations Aviation Regiment**

## **Fact Sheet**

**U.S. ARMY SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND**  
*PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE, FORT BRAGG, NC 28310. 910-432-6005*

### **Overview**

The 160<sup>th</sup> Special Operations Aviation Regiment (Airborne) (SOAR(A)) provides rotary-wing aviation support to special operations forces. Their mission is to organize, equip, train, resource and employ Army special operations aviation forces worldwide.

Soldiers of the 160<sup>th</sup> have been actively engaged in the Global War on Terrorism since October 2001. Today, they remain engaged in two fronts of the GWOT, supporting Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

### **Organization**

Modified to meet the unit's unique mission requirements, the 160th employs MH-6 and AH-6 Little Bird light helicopters, MH-60 Black Hawk utility helicopters and MH-47 Chinook heavy assault helicopters. 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion (Bn.) has one AH-6 company, one MH-6 company and two companies of MH-60 helicopters; 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn. is comprised of three MH-47 companies; 3<sup>rd</sup> Bn. has two MH-60 companies and one MH-47 company; and 4<sup>th</sup> Bn. has two MH-47 companies. Each battalion has a Headquarters and Headquarters Company and a maintenance company.



### **Assessment, Selection and Training**

The 160<sup>th</sup> SOAR actively seeks and assesses the best-qualified Army aviators and crew members. Members of this unit are three-time volunteers: for the Army, for airborne training and for the regiment. Once assigned, the Special Operations Aviation Training Company trains Soldiers to the basic mission qualification standard of the regiment. Incoming officers and enlisted Soldiers go through respective Basic Mission Qualification courses. The capabilities and professionalism of Army special operations aviation are developed through a "train as you fight" mentality.

### **History**

Originally created as Task Force 160, the unit was formed from Soldiers of the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division at Fort Campbell. In October 1981, the unit was officially designated the 160<sup>th</sup> Aviation Battalion. The regiment then became an airborne unit in October 1986 and was re-designated the 160<sup>th</sup> Special Operations Aviation Group (A). The modern day 160<sup>th</sup> Special Operations Aviation Regiment (A) was officially activated in June 1990. Most recently, in July 2006, the regiment provisionally stood up a fourth battalion to meet growing special operations forces requirements.

Soldiers of the 160<sup>th</sup> pioneered the Army's nighttime flying techniques. The unit became known as the "Night Stalkers" because of its capability to strike undetected during the hours of darkness and its unprecedented combat successes. Today, Night Stalkers continue to develop and employ new technology and tactics, techniques and procedures for the battlefield. Time and again, in every major combat operation since Grenada, Soldiers of this unit demonstrate that they live by their motto, "Night Stalkers Don't Quit."

**Regimental Headquarters**  
**Fort Campbell, Kentucky**

**1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 160<sup>th</sup> SOAR (A)**  
**Fort Campbell, Kentucky**

AH-6 and MH-6 Little Bird light helicopters  
MH-60 Black Hawk utility helicopters

**2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 160<sup>th</sup> SOAR (A)**  
**Fort Campbell, Kentucky**

MH-47 Chinook heavy assault helicopters

**3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 160<sup>th</sup> SOAR (A)**  
**Hunter Army Airfield, Georgia**

MH-47 Chinook heavy assault helicopters  
MH-60 Black Hawk utility helicopters

**4<sup>th</sup> Battalion, 160<sup>th</sup> SOAR (A) (Provisional)**  
**Fort Lewis, Washington**

MH-47 Chinook heavy assault helicopters

**Special Operations Aviation Training**  
**Company**  
**Fort Campbell, Kentucky**